

## IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

IOWA ARTS  
COUNCILPRODUCE  
IOWASTATE HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY OF IOWACREATING CULTURALLY **VIBRANT** COMMUNITIES

# DAYS OF LEARNING



Iowa is an extraordinary place. Outsiders may call these 56,000 square miles “flyover” country, but Iowans know better.

Here at the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs, we invite you to zoom in for a closer look with a new initiative called [Days of Learning](#), which showcases Iowa’s art, history, film and culture. Our staff has curated some of the best resources from the department’s three divisions – the Iowa Arts Council, State Historical Society of Iowa, and Produce Iowa, the state office film and media production – as well as several partner organizations, and we’ve arranged it all online for Iowans of all ages.

The first Days of Learning theme is “[Iowa’s People and Places](#),” which reflects a broad mix of people and perspectives. Here are just a few highlights to get you started . . .



### Preview the Exhibition: "Iowa's People and Places"

Join State Curator Leo Landis from noon to 1 p.m. today, March 2, for [an online preview](#) of a new exhibition that opens March 5 at the State Historical Museum of Iowa. The exhibition opening coincides with [Iowa History Month](#) and the year-long commemoration of [Iowa's 175th Anniversary](#).

### Try Your Hand at Kolrosing

Watch master woodcarver Harley Refsal demonstrate [Kolrosing](#), a traditional Scandinavian artform that involves rubbing

natural pigment into incised lines in wooden surfaces to create beautiful patterns and sketches. Then try it yourself with step-by-step instructions.

*Courtesy of Vesterheim, the National Norwegian-American Museum & Folk Art School*



## Read the Real-Life Mystery of Nancy Drew

For decades, fans of the popular book series didn't know that the author, Carolyn Keene, was a pseudonym -- until clues pointed toward a ghost writer from Ladora, Iowa. Read the extraordinary story of [Mildred Wirt Benson](#).

*Courtesy of the Iowa Women's Archives, The University of Iowa Libraries*



## Record Your Own Iowa Story

Pick up a few tips from "[How to Shoot Video of Yourself](#)," a how-to video by Iowa filmmaker Cameron McCoy. The video shows you how to film yourself in a remote and virtual world, even if you don't have much experience.

*Courtesy of Iowa PBS*



## See Photos from the Farm

From 1928 through the 1970s, a Mount Pleasant photographer named A.M. "Pete" Wettach focused his lens on [Iowa farm life](#). Browse some of his best shots in an online album curated from the State Historical Society of Iowa's collection of nearly half a million photos from Iowa's past.

LEARN MORE ABOUT IOWA'S PEOPLE & PLACES!

*We appreciate support from the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs' Days of Learning sponsors **MidAmerican Energy** and **Musco Lighting**.*

